



# Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 11 March 2004

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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[www.whitehouse.gov/homeland](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)

## Daily Overview

- The Associated Press reports federal safety investigators say that more than half the 60,000 railroad tank cars carrying hazardous materials are not built to current industry standards and are more likely to break open after derailing. (See item [9](#))
- Rocky Mountain News reports the rising cost of jet fuel is hurting U.S. airline carriers' profits, as the industry tries to recover from its worst-ever slump. (See item [10](#))
- USAgNet reports the Department of Agriculture is expected to announce that it will triple the number of cattle it plans to test this year for mad cow disease. (See item [16](#))

### DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *March 10, Department of Energy* — Department of Energy releases long-term hydrogen research plan. The Department of Energy (DOE) Wednesday, March 10, released its "Hydrogen Posture Plan," a document which outlines the activities, milestones and deliverables that DOE plans to pursue to support America's shift to a hydrogen-based transportation energy system. This plan identifies milestones for technology development over the next decade, leading up to a commercialization decision by industry in 2015. The federal government will play a key role in accelerating the transition towards the hydrogen



economy by pursuing research to overcome technical challenges. The Posture Plan integrates research, development and demonstration activities from the DOE renewable, nuclear, fossil and science offices. The plan also points out that the use of hydrogen as an energy carrier can enhance energy security while reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. A recent report by the National Research Council of the National Academies states, "a transition to hydrogen as a major fuel in the next 50 years could fundamentally transform the U.S. energy system, creating opportunities to increase energy security through the use of a variety of domestic energy sources for hydrogen production while reducing environmental impacts, including atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and criteria pollutants." Hydrogen Posture Plan:

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/hydrogenandfuelcells>.

Source: [http://www.energy.gov/engine/content.do?PUBLIC\\_ID=15220&BT\\_CODE=PR\\_PRESSRELEASES&TT\\_CODE=PRESSRELEASE](http://www.energy.gov/engine/content.do?PUBLIC_ID=15220&BT_CODE=PR_PRESSRELEASES&TT_CODE=PRESSRELEASE)

2. *March 10, Reuters* — **Trinidad's LNG exports resume. Exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Trinidad, the top supplier to the United States, resumed Wednesday, March 10, after striking tugboat operators returned to work. "Filling of LNG has resumed and it is safe to say that the first ship will leave tonight with 135,000 cubic feet of LNG bound for the U.S. market," said Esther le Gendre, the manager of the Public and Government Affairs for the Atlantic LNG project. Union official Ancil Roget confirmed earlier in the day that loading had resumed after tugboat operators had come back to work. Shipments from the Atlantic LNG project, the biggest of its kind in the Americas, were halted on Monday, March 8, after tugboat operators joined a strike by construction workers seeking a wage increase to compensate for risks involved in building a new \$1.2 billion LNG plant. Construction workers remained on strike on Wednesday.**

Source: [http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma\\_newsarticle1\\_reuters.htm?SMDOCID=reuters\\_pma\\_2004\\_03\\_10\\_eng-reuters\\_pma\\_TRINIDAD-STRIKE-HIT-LNG-EXPORTS-RESUME&SMContentSet=0](http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_reuters.htm?SMDOCID=reuters_pma_2004_03_10_eng-reuters_pma_TRINIDAD-STRIKE-HIT-LNG-EXPORTS-RESUME&SMContentSet=0)

3. *March 10, Reuters* — **Saudi cuts April supplies to majors, Asia buyers. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) top producer Saudi Arabia on Wednesday, March 10, told leading crude customers it was cutting supplies for April, implementing part of a February OPEC agreement to reduce oil production. State oil company Saudi Aramco informed its biggest buyers, the four world oil majors, of supply reductions for April of 8–11 percent. Aramco cut April export allocations to the majors to 30–35 percent below full term contract volume from about 20–25 percent below contract volume in March. Japanese and South Korean buyers were told to expect a reduction in April of about three percent, to 12 percent below full contract volumes in April from 8–10 percent below full contract in March. Saudi Aramco accounts for a third of OPEC output, meaning it would need to cut just over 800,000 barrels per day (bpd) of the total agreed 2.5 million bpd OPEC cut to meet a new quota in April of 7.64 million bpd. OPEC ministers say they are trying to avoid a price fall during the second quarter when world demand ebbs, but consumer countries have complained the cartel is propping up prices with unfair restrictions.**

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/rm/040310/energy\\_asia\\_saudi\\_5.html](http://biz.yahoo.com/rm/040310/energy_asia_saudi_5.html)

4. *March 10, Associated Press* — **New gas pipeline running through Tucson. Seven months after a 19,000-gallon spill, pipeline operator Kinder Morgan has a new 12-inch line running through Tucson and is ready to significantly increase the volume of gasoline it brings into**



Arizona. When complete, Kinder Morgan's upgrade of its gasoline pipeline between El Paso, TX, and Tucson and Phoenix, AZ, will allow the system to increase its maximum carrying capacity by 56 percent, from 94,000 barrels a day to 147,000 barrels a day. The proximity of the pipeline to neighborhoods, schools and parks is a safety concern. The Tucson City Council last year voted to pursue relocation of the pipeline in 2006, when the city's agreement allowing Kinder Morgan to operate the pipeline here expires.

Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/business/articles/0310Pipeline10-ON.html>

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## **Chemical Sector**

5. *March 10, Waterbury Republican-American* — **Connecticut chemical company gets a boost.** Norwalk, CT-based Arch Chemicals Inc., Thursday, March 10, said it will spend \$210 million to buy part of a British chemical company that will bolster its division based in Cheshire, CT. Arch said it is acquiring the "biocides" business of privately owned Avecia Group of Manchester, England. Biocides are chemical agents that destroy bacteria and other living organisms. Arch, which employs about 50 people at its Cheshire facility, is a specialty chemicals maker with annual sales of \$1 billion. The company employs roughly 200 people in Connecticut and more than 3,000 people in 25 research and manufacturing centers worldwide. The primary manufacturing centers for Avecia's biocides operation are located in the United Kingdom, but the company does manufacture pool chemicals at a small facility in Mount Pleasant, TN, while maintaining a research and development facility in New Castle, DE, and business offices in nearby Wilmington, DE.

Source: [http://cnni.w.yellowbrix.com/pages/cnniw/Story.nsp?story\\_id=48204458&ID=cnniw&scategory=Chemicals&](http://cnni.w.yellowbrix.com/pages/cnniw/Story.nsp?story_id=48204458&ID=cnniw&scategory=Chemicals&)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

6. *March 10, Aerospace Daily* — **JASSM receives USAF approval to begin full-rate production.** The Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile (JASSM) has received the go-ahead from the U.S. Air Force to enter full-rate production, according to the contractor. Major General Robert Chedister, Air Force program executive officer for weapons and commander of the Air Armament Center at Eglin Air Force Base, FL, made the Milestone III decision Tuesday, March 9. **JASSM, a conventional, precision-guided, long-range cruise missile that can be launched from fighter and bomber aircraft, has been in low-rate production for several years. JASSM, which has a stealthy airframe, is designed to destroy high value, heavily defended targets.** The program is a joint Air Force-Navy effort led by the Air Force. The Air Force intends to deploy the weapon on its B-1, B-2 and B-52 bombers and F-16 fighter. The Navy is funding the integration of JASSM on its F/A-18E/F Super Hornet and plans to buy 453 missiles starting in 2008.

Source: [http://www.aviationnow.com/avnow/news/channel\\_aerospacedaily\\_story.jsp?id=news/jas03104.xml](http://www.aviationnow.com/avnow/news/channel_aerospacedaily_story.jsp?id=news/jas03104.xml)



7. *March 09, Department of Defense* — **Defense announces WMD–CST fielding plan. The Department of Defense (DoD) notified Congress Tuesday, March 9, the fielding plan for 12 additional Weapons of Mass Destruction–Civil Support Teams (WMD–CSTs).** The decision regarding which states would receive the first 12 teams was based on Defense Threat Reduction Agency analysis of objective criteria such as population density, port and coastal security challenges, location of DoD installations, protection of critical infrastructure, and the presence of symbolic sites of national significance. The twelve scheduled for FY04 are: Connecticut, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indiana, Wisconsin, Maryland, Oregon, Mississippi, Utah, Nevada, Nebraska, and Rhode Island. The WMD–CSTs are able to deploy rapidly to assist local first responders in determining the nature of the attack and providing medical and technical advice. Each team consists of 22 highly skilled, full–time members of the Army and Air National Guard who are federally resourced, trained and evaluated, but fall under the command and control of the state governors. **The initiative is part of the DoD's overall effort to support local, state, and federal civil authorities in the event of an incident involving weapons of mass destruction in the United States.**

Source: <http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/2004/nr20040309-0445.htm>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

8. *March 09, Finextra.com* — **U.S. banks call for higher duty of care. U.S. community bank association ICBA is backing efforts by Washington–based banking industry consortium Bits to force software vendors to provide a higher "duty of care" on sales to the financial services sector,** with Microsoft a prime target for reform. Bits' efforts to shore up vulnerabilities in bank IT infrastructures are codified in a set of business requirements that call upon the software industry to make security a fundamental component of software design; support older versions of software (such as Microsoft Windows NT) past the end of their estimated life cycle; and provide better security–trained and security–certified developers on product teams. According to the 2002 ICBA/InFinet Community Bank Technology Survey, approximately 59% of the respondents use Microsoft Windows NT. In addition, the business requirements encourage software vendor compliance with sector–security requirements before software products are released and the development of a patch–management process that is more secure, more efficient and less costly. **According to Bits, the cost of software vulnerabilities and patch management to the financial services industry is approaching \$1 billion annually.**

Source: <http://www.finextra.com/topstory.asp?id=11367>

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## **Transportation Sector**

9. *March 10, Associated Press* — **Many rail cars found substandard. More than half the 60,000 railroad tank cars carrying hazardous materials are not built to current industry standards and are more likely to break open after derailing, federal safety investigators said yesterday, March 9.** The concern about the older tank cars punctuated a series of National



Transportation Safety Board recommendations regarding track inspections and repairs designed to avoid train derailments such as the one in January 2002 near Minot, ND, that led to a deadly chemical leak. **The board said federal standards were needed for tank cars that carry hazardous materials.** In the 2002 derailment, a 122-car Canadian Pacific Railway train was carrying anhydrous ammonia, a fertilizer, when it hit a damaged track joint. Five of the cars broke open, spilling 146,700 gallons of ammonia, which had been carried as a liquid but quickly became a gas after coming in contact with air. The chemical formed a vapor cloud. One person died after breathing the fumes and 333 were injured. "We believe Minot serves as a warning that there is a risk out there to the public," said Tom Lasseigne, a safety board investigator. **Of the almost 60,000 cars now in service, more than 35,000 were built before manufacturers began using stronger steel in 1989; the five that ruptured in the Minot derailment were also older cars.**

Source: [http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2004/03/10/many\\_rail\\_cars\\_found\\_substandard/](http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2004/03/10/many_rail_cars_found_substandard/)

10. *March 10, Rocky Mountain News* — **Fuel costs hurt Frontier.** Frontier Airlines warned Monday, March 8, that fiscal fourth-quarter earnings would be weaker than expected because of high fuel prices and other costs. Chief Executive Jeff Potter said results would be softer even though Frontier was showing strong travel bookings this month and a significant increase in unit revenue, or revenue per seat flown a mile. **The rising cost of jet fuel is hurting U.S. carriers' profits as the industry tries to recover from its worst-ever slump. Crude oil, the raw material from which jet fuel is refined, traded for \$36.57 per barrel Monday on the New York Mercantile Exchange. That's up from the projections of about \$25 that the oil industry was making at the end of last year.** Frontier is among a small number of carriers that have used hedges in the commodity markets to dilute high fuel costs this year. Frontier has hedged about seven percent of its jet-fuel needs through June 30, a spokesman said. In addition to higher fuel costs, Frontier's fourth-quarter results are being dampened by the expense of training crews and making other preparations for the launch of new routes this spring. Frontier, which is expanding operations in Denver and Los Angeles, has reported profits for three straight quarters.

Source: [http://cnni.wyellowbrix.com/pages/cnni.w/Story.nsp?story\\_id=48232668&ID=cnni.w&scategory=Aviation&](http://cnni.wyellowbrix.com/pages/cnni.w/Story.nsp?story_id=48232668&ID=cnni.w&scategory=Aviation&)

11. *March 10, KRT Wire* — **Normalcy remains years off for U.S. airlines. The airline industry is gaining strength, but terrorism remains a real threat to security, as airports like Miami International continue to grapple with the aftereffects of September 11, 2001, experts at an aviation conference said Tuesday, March 9.** Nationwide, airline traffic is expected to grow 2.5 percent to 2.7 percent annually, but won't regain the level prior to the terrorist attacks until at least 2007, said airline consultant Michael Boyd. At the same time, major airlines are recovering, while the low-cost carriers continue to grow by focusing on select markets. "We don't see any failures, and we don't see any more bankruptcies out there," Boyd said at Armbrust Aviation Group's Sixth Annual International Jet Fuel and Airport Operations Conference at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Miami. With security a growing concern, terrorist threats at airports are expanding beyond potential baggage or cargo bombs to include dirty bombs, shoulder-fired missiles and weapons of mass destruction,

Source: <http://www.miami.com/mld/miamiherald/business/national/8152014.htm>



12. *March 09, Xinhua News Agency – CEIS* — **Cargo traffic rises at Kenya's Mombasa port.** The Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) officials said Tuesday, March 9, that cargo traffic in Mombasa port last year reached a new peak and they are determined to make the port the most vital player of economic growth in East Africa and beyond. KPA Chief Executive Officer Brown Ondego said, while releasing the port's performance figures for the year ended 2003, that the continuous rise in cargo traffic performance in last three years has culminated in the best ever performance of 11.93 million tons. In a statement, Ondego said compared to the year 2002 when the port recorded a total throughput of 10.56 million tons, last year's performance gave an inspiring increase of 1.37 million tons or 12.93 percent. **The KPA attributed the overall good performance to the positive gains made from newly acquired equipment, a comprehensive information technology program, improved documentation procedures, customer care and support of stakeholders.**

Source: [http://cnni.wyellowbrix.com/pages/cnniw/Story.nsp?story\\_id=48235015&ID=cnniw&scategory=Transportation:Shipping&](http://cnni.wyellowbrix.com/pages/cnniw/Story.nsp?story_id=48235015&ID=cnniw&scategory=Transportation:Shipping&)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

13. *March 10, Oregonian* — **Businesses join bid to overhaul Postal Service.** Business executives on Tuesday, March 9, addressed a Senate panel considering the first postal overhaul in more than 30 years. **The companies urged the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs to avoid dramatic rate increases or service reductions as it looks for solutions to the Postal Service's financial crisis.** The companies offered a common suggestion: Operate the Postal Service less like a government bureaucracy and more like an efficient business. Their suggestions come after recommendations of deregulation and cost-cutting that Congress received from a presidential commission last year. The hearings come in response to growing financial problems at the Postal Service. The General Accounting Office (GAO) said first-class mail volume declined by a record 3.2 percent in fiscal 2003, the third drop in a row. **To survive, businesses said, the Postal Service should try to compete with the private sector by taking advantage of its huge network, cutting costs, and providing services to keep customers from switching.** Rate caps indexed to inflation, business executives testified, would make sure they aren't caught off-guard by regulatory decisions to increase rates dramatically.

Source: <http://www.oregonlive.com/business/oregonian/index.ssf?/base/business/107892349932541.xml>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

14. *March 10, Agricultural Research Service* — **ARS scientists help experts recognize foreign fungi.** By hitching a ride on plants, fruits and other agricultural materials, potentially harmful fungi from around the globe can enter the United States. Agricultural Research Service (ARS) mycologists at the agency's Systematic Botany and Mycology Laboratory (SBML) in Maryland provide support to other U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists who are charged with identifying suspect fungi intercepted during inspection at U.S. ports. **Some**



**fungi have the potential, if left unchecked, to cost American agriculture and horticulture industries millions of dollars in damage control.** Eight years ago, a mystery fungus on wheat plants nearly froze U.S. exports of the crop, until ARS researchers discovered that the organism was just a lookalike of the more serious Karnal bunt fungus. The U.S. National Fungus Collections, part of SBML, are the largest reference collection of fungi in the world.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=1261>

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## **Food Sector**

15. *March 10, Associated Press* — **Scientists look at how to protect food.** Michael McLaughlin and Eric Garber spend their days lacing milk chocolate and fruit juice with ricin. McLaughlin and Garber are scientists for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and are conducting research on how bioterrorists might attack and how Americans can be protected. **"The question was, could we detect ricin in food and cosmetics?" Garber said. "The good news is, we were able to detect it in all products at levels way below what a terrorist would be likely to use."** Federal anti-bioterrorism spending has quadrupled since 2001 to \$6 billion a year, and researchers are competing for much of that money.

Source: <http://www.wtopnews.com/index.php?sid=177565&nid=25>

16. *March 10, USAGNet* — **USDA plans to triple testing for mad cow.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is expected to announce as early as this week that it probably will triple the number of cattle it plans to test this year for mad cow disease. The agency also plans to license rapid turnaround tests for the deadly disease. Since the first U.S. case of mad cow was discovered in December in Washington state, the USDA has been criticized for not testing more extensively. **The agency tested about 20,000 cattle in 2002 and 2003. After a mad cow case was discovered in Canada in May, testing was scheduled to be stepped up to 40,000. Now as many as 120,000 and perhaps more of the 35 million cattle slaughtered each year will be tested.** The agency is working to expand its laboratories and diagnostic networks to deal with the increase in tests.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.cfm?Id=252&yr=2004>

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## **Water Sector**

17. *March 09, Associated Press* — **Making water available in power outages.** Fairfax, VA, Water Authority has had a change of heart about spending as much as \$60 million for emergency generators to avoid a repeat of the system failure that resulted from severe weather stirred up by Hurricane Isabel last fall. Officials had considered building a backup system during preparations for possible Y2K computer problems, and again after the September 11 attacks. But the idea was thought to be too costly. **Now the utility is looking into getting an engineering firm to design eight new water storage tanks and six generators.** Bill Evans, a member of the Water Authority, says officials now believe they can't afford not to insulate the area from problems that could cause system failures. Officials say the average water bill could



go up by about \$15 a year due to the upgrade.

Source: <http://www.wjla.com/news/stories/0304/131229.html>

18. *March 08, Durham Herald Sun* — **Water service knocked out by windstorm.** A brief but fierce windstorm Sunday, March 7, temporarily disrupted water supplies March 8 in Durham, NC, officials said. **The storm knocked out power to the Brown Water Treatment Plant in Durham, resulting in less water pressure in areas of the city Monday afternoon.** The city's water problems began after the storm knocked out power at the Brown Water Treatment Plant, said Vicki Westbrook, conservation coordinator with Durham's environmental resources department. Officials were still investigating what happened, Westbrook said, but once the plant lost power, its diesel-powered backup pump kicked in. Then, just as the crew was restoring power at about 1 p.m., that pump also failed. And almost at the same time, a large pump at the Williams Water Treatment Plant shut down, a news release said. Staffers are investigating that shutdown as well.

Source: <http://www.herald-sun.com/durham/4-456416.html>

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## **Public Health Sector**

19. *March 10, American Society for Microbiology* — **DNA vaccine protects against anthrax. A new DNA vaccine against anthrax provides complete protection against aerosolized spores in rabbits, say researchers from the Ohio University and the Naval Medical Research Center.** "The naked DNA approach is vaccination at its simplest. The gene encoding the vaccine is introduced into the host and expressed in vivo where it stimulates a protective immune response," says Matthew Bell, of the Ohio State University, one of the researchers on the study. Having previously shown the effectiveness of a DNA vaccine in mice, Bell and his colleagues tested the vaccine on a higher form of mammal: rabbits. The animals were given a vaccine made of DNA that coded for either the lethal factor (LF) or the protective antigen (PA) component of the anthrax toxin in order to stimulate the immune system to produce antibodies against those compounds. The researchers tested the ability of the vaccine to both stimulate antibody production and protect against lethal infection. While the LF-based DNA vaccine appeared to stimulate higher levels of antibodies, only 56 percent of the rabbits survived an aerosolized spore challenge. In contrast all of the rabbits given the PA-based DNA vaccine survived. "Although LF stimulates higher antibody titers than PA, immunization with PA induces antibodies that are more capable of neutralizing toxin and conferring protection," says Bell.

Source: [http://www.innovations-report.com/html/reports/life\\_sciences/report-26745.html](http://www.innovations-report.com/html/reports/life_sciences/report-26745.html)

20. *March 10, Canadian Press* — **Oxygen therapy could help spread SARS. Researchers in a Toronto, Canada, laboratory have discovered a startling effect of oxygen therapy. It may explain how some people contracted Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) last year, and should be addressed to prevent the spread of other respiratory infections, they say.** Using special techniques to create images of exhaled gases exiting from the vents of oxygen masks, the researchers showed plumes of droplets that extended for five meters and beyond on each side of the mask-wearer. If the subject had been a SARS patient getting oxygen, any nurse or other health-care worker who approached the bed from the side would



have been standing in a virtual cloud of exhaled droplets, at least some of which would be virus-laced, the researchers suggest. **"It may result in transmission and some infections being more readily transmitted that aren't normally airborne,"** said infectious disease expert Donald Low, who was not involved in the research but studied the findings.

Source: <http://www.canada.com/health/story.html?id=21B26619-C604-4B29-B339-AA1B118A7D4E>

21. *March 10, Helena Independent Record (Montana)* — **State epidemiologist seeks clues to tick disease. Todd Damrow, the Montana state epidemiologist, along with his colleagues at the Montana Department of Public Health, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Rocky Mountain Laboratories has spent the past few years investigating reports of a tickborne rash similar to that found in Lyme disease.** Rocky Mountain wood ticks are among the prime suspects in the group's investigation. Damrow first thought something strange was going on a few years ago when he began getting reports from patients and physicians of what appeared to be Lyme disease. The patients complained of fever and severe fatigue, as well as odd circular rashes at the site of a previous tick bite. The symptoms were similar to those of Lyme disease, but only deer ticks carry Lyme disease, and deer ticks are not indigenous to Montana. The rash also was not characteristic of Rocky Mountain spotted fever or other tickborne diseases in Montana. Then a public health worker mailed Damrow a photo of the distinctive rash. It was unlike anything he had seen before, and it prompted him to launch a more formal investigation.

Source: <http://www.montanaforum.com/rednews/2004/03/09/build/health/tickdisease.php?nnn=4>

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## **Government Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

22. *March 10, Baltimore Sun* — **Maryland to get federal anti-terror support team. As part of a federal initiative to help local authorities respond to acts of terrorism, Maryland is one of 12 states to receive a 22-member Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Team funded by the U.S. Department of Defense, Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. announced yesterday, March 9.** The team will include full-time Army and Air National Guard members trained to respond to a nuclear, chemical or biological attack. The team will fall under command of the governor and will be equipped with protective and communications equipment and a mobile lab. Maryland was selected in part based on population density, port and coastal security problems, location of Department of Defense facilities and sites of national significance. Connecticut, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indiana, Wisconsin, Oregon, Mississippi, Utah, Nevada, Nebraska and Rhode Island were the other states chosen. The teams cost an estimated \$193 million and are funded through the federal Defense Appropriations Act. Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/bal-md.team10mar10.0>.



23. *March 10, Katu.com* — **Oregon National Guard unit to get special terrorist training.** An Oregon National Guard unit is going to get special training and equipment to respond to terrorist threats involving weapons of mass destruction. Congressman Peter DeFazio announced the program yesterday after he negotiated an agreement with the Pentagon to fund the unit with federal money. **The Oregon Democrat said the unit will give Oregon its own experts on weapons that use chemical, biological or radioactive materials.** If such a weapon was found in Oregon now, DeFazio said the state would have to wait until experts arrived from California or Washington state. The Oregon team will be part of a \$120 million national program aimed at providing states with the local ability to find, assess and possibly disarm a potential weapon of mass destruction.

Source: <http://www.katu.com/news/story.asp?ID=65269>

24. *March 10, El Defensor Chieftain (New Mexico)* — **Tech plays an ever-increasing role in homeland security.** A panel of three of New Mexico's top authorities on terrorism prevention spoke at a High Tech Showcase recently at New Mexico Tech. The speakers were New Mexico Tech's Vice President of Research and Economic Development Van Romero; Sandia National Laboratories Director of Homeland Security Thurman J. Allard; and Science Adviser for the Office of Lt. Governor Diane Denish, Jerry Hanks. After opening remarks by Brig. Gen. Annette Sobel, of the Army National Guard and director of homeland security in New Mexico, Romero gave a presentation about how New Mexico Tech, located in Socorro, NM, is involved with homeland security. "In response to Okalahoma City, a program was developed called the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium," said Romero. New Mexico Tech, as part of the consortium, focuses entirely on explosives. "One is a suicide bombing class," said Romero, who showed two films of a simulated test with a suicide bomber carrying 15 pounds of C4 explosives, standing both inside and outside a bus. **"Worldwide, 80 percent of all terrorist attacks are with explosives. Ten percent are kidnappings, five percent are assassinations and five percent is everything else."**

Source: <http://www.dchieftain.com/news/38818-03-10-04.html>

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## **Information and Telecommunications Sector**

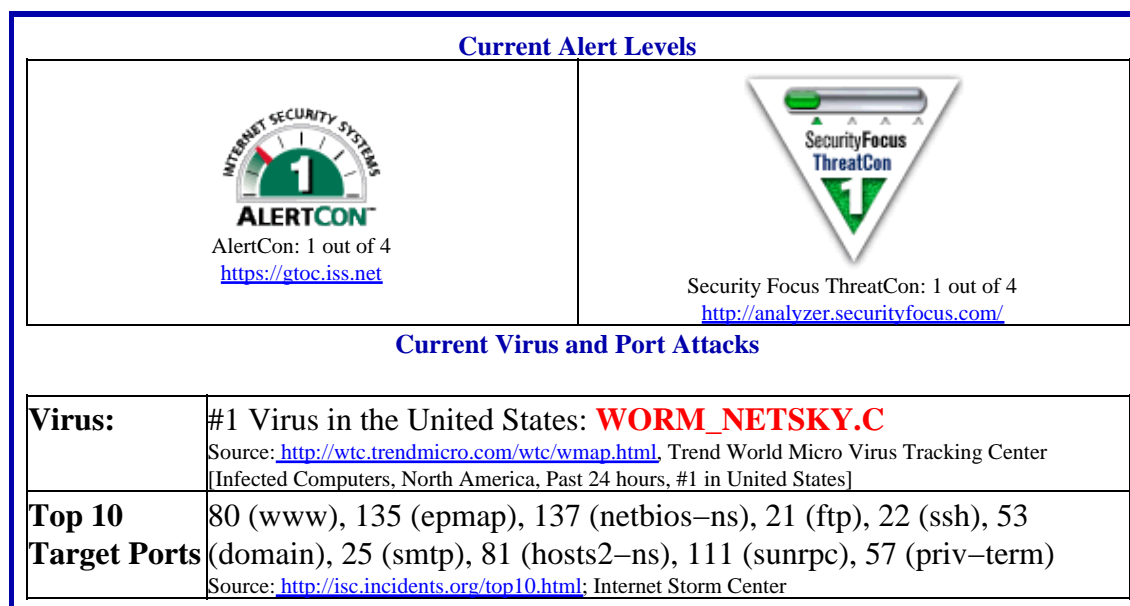
25. *March 08, Government Executive Magazine* — **DHS prepares to consolidate wireless communications efforts.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is on the verge of creating a program management office for interoperable wireless communications, officials said Monday, March 8. **The new office will help all levels of government move toward interoperable wireless communications,** said Parney Albright, DHS assistant secretary for science and technology. A primary mission of the office will be developing standards for state and local governments to implement when buying or activating wireless communications systems, said Charles McQueary, DHS undersecretary for science and technology. **One of the main activities that will be folded into the program office is the wireless public safety interoperable communications initiative, or Project SAFECOM,** said Parney Albright, DHS assistant secretary for science and technology. The Office of Management and Budget established SAFECOM in 2002 as one of the Bush administration's 24 e-government



initiatives. SAFECOM is an umbrella program intended to help local, tribal, state and federal agencies improve public safety response through more effective, efficient and interoperable wireless communications.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0304/030804c1.htm>

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## General Sector

26. *March 10, Voice of America* — **Iran says it will resume nuclear program. Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi said Wednesday, March 10, that Iran will begin enriching uranium again, as soon as relations with the International Atomic Energy Agency return to normal.** Kharrazi said it is Iran's legitimate right to enrich uranium, and said his country halted its nuclear activities voluntarily and temporarily. Iran's defense minister, Ali Shamkani, acknowledged that military technicians have built centrifuges, but denied having advanced weapons-making machinery.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/article.cfm?objectID=8D83BB41-36F1-41C4-8A9D2C124036E984>

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## DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:



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